

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. B-4871

### 1. Name

Historic 2 - 26 North Rose Street  
and / common

### 2. Location

street & number 2 - 26 North Rose Street  
city, town Baltimore  
state & zip code Maryland 21231 county

### 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	X occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
X building(s)	X private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	X private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	X yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

### 4. Owner of Property

name  
street & number telephone  
city, town state & zip code

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Land Records liber  
street & number Clarence Mitchell Courthouse folio  
city, town Baltimore State Maryland

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title  
date federal state county local  
depository for survey records  
city, town state & zip code

## 7. Description

**Condition**

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

**Check One**

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

**Check One**

☒ original site  
☐ moved:  
date of move: \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This row of thirteen two-story, two-bay wide vernacular Renaissance Revival-style brick houses with shed roofs and sheet metal cornices were built between 1900 and 1905. All of the houses have been covered with formstone.

After the use of wood was outlawed for cornices in 1892, sheet metal became the predominant material used. By the early years of the 20th century, the most popular form of sheet metal cornice sported ball finials and often classical motifs like swags pressed into the frieze area. Generally, only main street two story houses had decorated friezes-the builder saved money on his small street versions by eliminating them. Likewise, while the main street houses in this style would have marble basements, stringers, lintels, and steps, builders used no marble at all on their small street versions, painting the basements white instead. Main street houses would have stained glass transoms over both the door and the wide first floor window; on the small streets builders offered stained glass only in the door transom.

The houses are two stories in height, 12' wide, and occupy lots 64' deep. Each house is three small rooms deep and there is no backbuilding. The houses are probably constructed in running bond and would have been painted. Each house has a single hooded chimney located near the rear of the house. The shed roof is capped by a sheet metal cornice, consisting of a crown molding, set above a plain frieze (now mostly covered with formstone) and framed by two end brackets (for every two or three houses) whose arched tops, decorated with rosettes, rise slightly above the roofline.

The door and window openings have segmentally arched brick lintels, with plain tympanums. The sills are wood. The houses at 2 - 12 N. Rose St. have Queen-Anne-style paired first floor windows, a way to provide the increasingly fashionable wider first floor window before plate glass had become either available or affordable. Houses at 14-26 have simple 1/1 sash in all window openings. A few of the original Arts-and-Crafts-style doors survive, with their long, narrow glass panels and short square and rectangular panels set above and below, all framed with molding strips. Doorways had single-light transoms but many of these have been covered with aluminum siding. The houses sit on very high basements lit by a wide sash. Each front door is reached by six or seven brick, wood, metal, or concrete steps, set parallel with the façade. Many houses also have entrances to the basement set beneath the steps.

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form**

Survey No. B-4871

## 8. Significance

Period	Area of significance	check one & justify			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theatre	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other: specify	

**Specific dates** 1900 - 1905

**Builder/Architect**

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

This group of houses is significant as representing the very last type of small street houses to be built in Baltimore, in the period 1900 - 1909, when a new city ordinance outlawed building houses on streets less than 40' wide. They are also significant for showing how the latest fashionable residential style, the Renaissance Revival style that first gained popularity in the city in the early 1890s, was soon adapted by builders of working class housing and even used for houses built along narrow, mid-block streets.

The houses were built according to a pattern that was quite common to the city's working class neighborhoods of the period c. 1880 to 1910. Recognizing that workers held different levels of jobs (and pay), builders created a hierarchy of two-story house sizes (and prices) in the new neighborhoods going up to serve the expanding factory districts ringing the harbor and northeast of the central city. Builders acquired anywhere from an eighth to a half of a city block and built 14' to 15'-wide two-story houses on the main streets, and smaller, 11' to 13'-wide two-story houses on the narrower streets bisecting the blocks. Typically, in this period, main street houses might sell for \$1,200 to \$1,500; small street houses for \$700 - \$900. Occasionally, the builder retained ownership of his small street houses to provide income for himself as rental properties. In this way people of varying means could afford to live in the same block. If they couldn't afford the approximately \$750 purchase price of the small street houses, then they *could* afford the \$8 or so a month it would cost to rent one, while they saved to be able to buy their own home later.

The land originally on which these houses are built belonged to the Patterson family as part of their 18<sup>th</sup> century estate, which also included the land given by the family to the city for Patterson Park. In the 1870s and 1880s the Patterson heirs began developing this land by leasing parcels to various builders who constructed modestly-scaled and priced housing for the mainly German immigrant families who were settling near the port-related fledgling industries of Canton. Most of the houses sold to mainly German-American semi-skilled tradesmen and laborers employed in nearby factories, who received mortgages from a variety of local building and loans, many of them sponsored by the German community.

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form**

Survey No. B-4871

## 9. Major Bibliographic References

Mary Ellen Hayward and Charles Belfoure, *The Baltimore Rowhouse*  
(New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1999)

## 10. Geographic Data

Acreage of nominated property  
Quadrangle name  
Verbal boundary description and justification

## 11. Form Prepared by

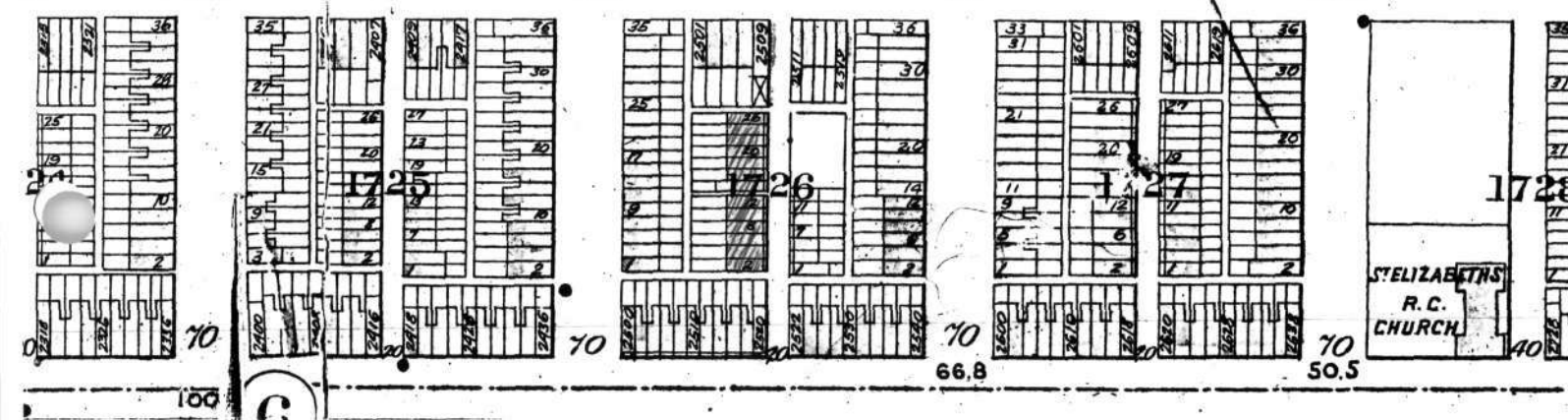
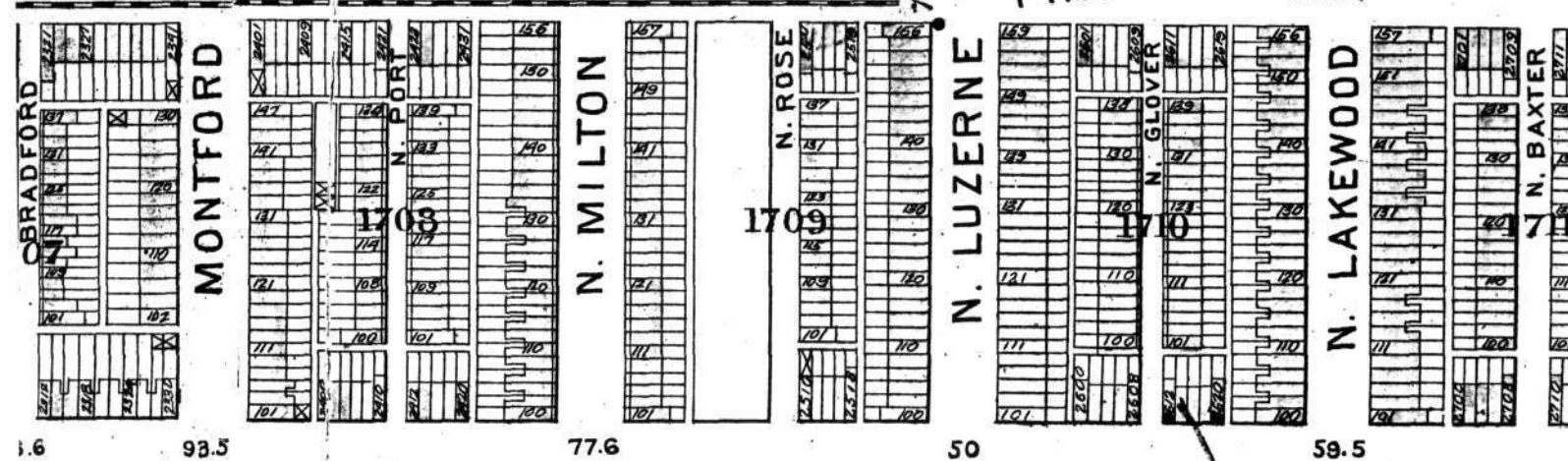
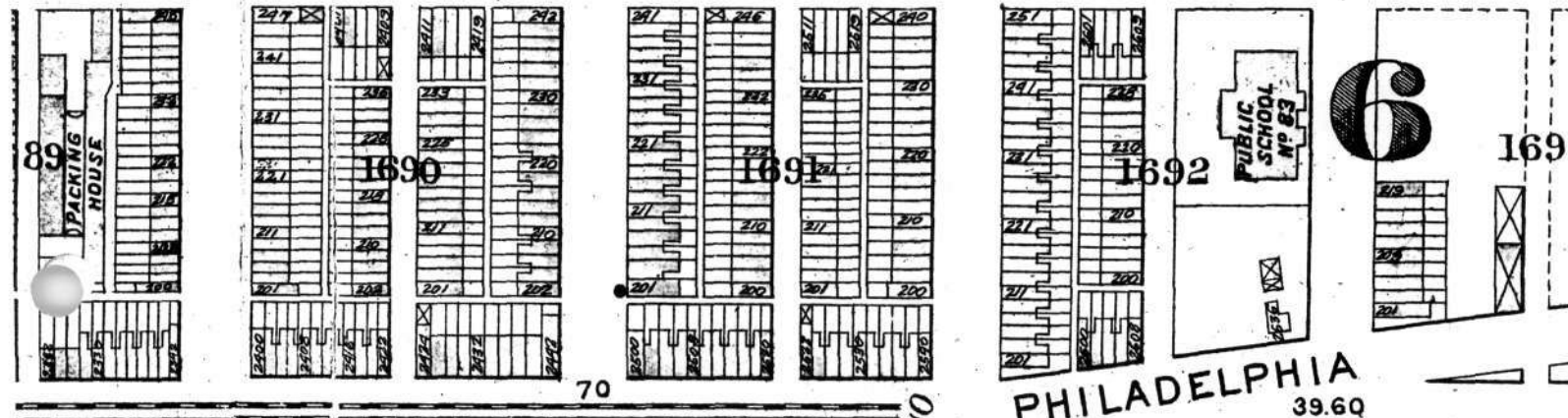
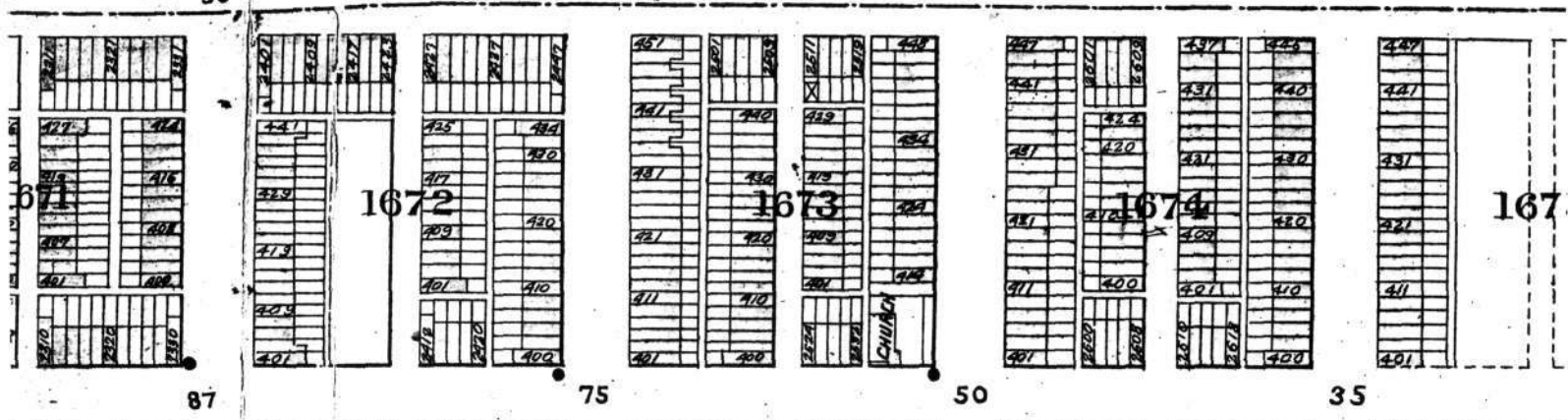
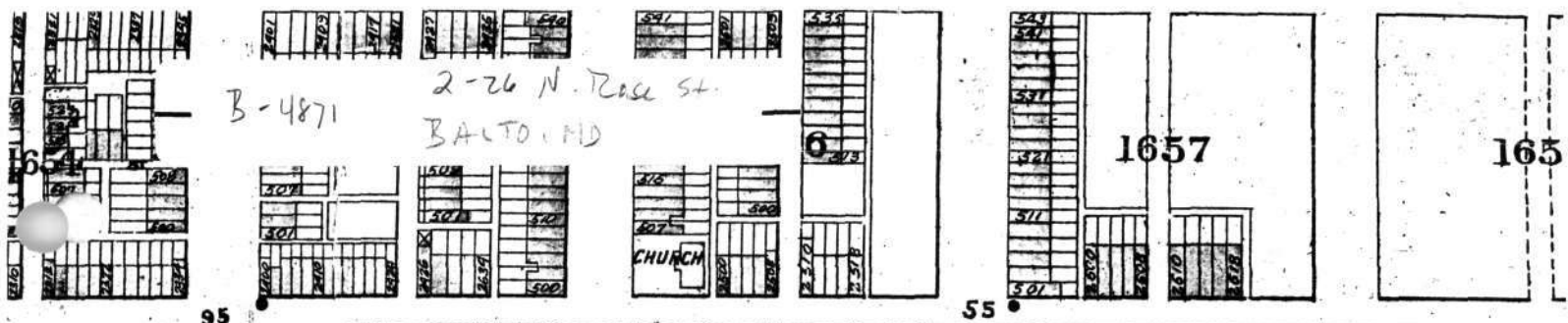
name / title	Dr. Mary Ellen Hayward	date
Organization	The Alley House Project	telephone
street & number	1306 Carrollton Ave.	state & zip code
city, town	Baltimore	Maryland 21204

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code Maryland, Article 41, section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of proper

Return to:  
DHCP/DHCD  
Maryland Historical Trust  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville MD 21032-2023





GIS data Courtesy of  
the City of Baltimore, MOIT/EGIS



B-4471

2-12 N. Tice 2-26 N. Tice St.

C-3

BALCO-11D

C. Self/11/12

2/12

1/3

1/3 270

1167194 0211 2 1 1 1





6

G. N. Rose

C-3

B-4871

2-26 N. Rose St.

34 To. MD

C. Belgrave

12/47

2/3

1157194 0210 27 27 27



NO  
BALL  
PLAYING

14-26 N. Rose

C-3

B-4871

2-26 N. Rose St

BALTO. MD

C. Bellmore

12/97

0

11/11/99

3/3